
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1995 No. 755

The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995

**PART II
GENERAL**

Parental responsibility

Acquisition of parental responsibility

- 7.—(1) Where a child's father and mother were not married to each other at the time of his birth—
- (a) the court may, on the application of the father, order that he shall have parental responsibility for the child; or
 - (b) the father and mother may by agreement (“a parental responsibility agreement”) provide for the father to have parental responsibility for the child.
- (2) No parental responsibility agreement shall have effect for the purposes of this Order unless—
- (a) it is made in the prescribed form; and
 - (b) it has been recorded in the prescribed manner (if any).
- (3) In this Article “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Department of Finance and Personnel.
- (4) Subject to Article 12(4) (residence orders and parental responsibility), an order under paragraph (1)(a), or a parental responsibility agreement, may only be brought to an end by an order of the court made on the application—
- (a) of any person who has parental responsibility for the child; or
 - (b) with leave of the court, of the child himself.
- (5) The court may only grant leave under paragraph (4)(b) if it is satisfied that the child has sufficient understanding to make the proposed application.